

The Town Crier

A Newsletter from the Town of Warrenton



New Director and Mosby Museum Are a Perfect Fit

Call it luck. Or maybe it was fate that brought Kay McCarron and the Mosby Museum together. No matter what you call it, "Grey Ghost" fans are going to appreciate having an expert onboard.

Earlier this year, when the Mosby Foundation began its search for a new executive director, little did anyone know that someone like Kay McCarron, with her impressive credentials and her high level of enthusiasm, would be interested in directing the museum. But, not only was Kay interested, she eagerly accepted the position, and she hit the ground running.

These days you'll find Kay tucked inside the temporary trailer located between Brentmoor — The Spilman-Mosby House — and the new Visitor Center. Within the first few days on the job she was busy preparing grant proposals, working on fundraising efforts, increasing memberships to the Mosby Museum Foundation, building a corps of volunteers, conducting tours, working on preliminary ideas for the planned fall 2007 museum opening, and creating the look and feel for the new museum.

"We want the museum to have a community focus," Kay explains. "It will offer a physical location where members of the community and members of the entire region can gather for special events, such as workshops, seminars, a special lecture series, interpretive events, and tours of the house."

The interior of Brentmoor will soon be restored to accurately reflect the post-Civil War period. The restoration will include the central hall, the two front rooms and the central staircase area. The back rooms of Brentmoor will be designed to hold educational exhibits, and the historic lawn and gardens will also be restored.

Kay says once the museum is open, period-costumed docents and guides will provide the tours of the home. The guides will interpret the architecture and decorative arts in the interior of the home and its two outbuildings. As part of the external tour, the guides will demonstrate how the outside kitchen and smoke house were used during Mosby's time.

The museum will also offer many exciting features for children. Current plans include period-costumed storytellers, hands-on educational activities, special tours and an education center, which is located in the basement of the new Visitor Center. The education center will house a laboratory and a number of computers.



Kay McCarron, PhD, the new executive director of the Mosby Museum, strikes a pose in front of Brentmoor, which will house the museum.

"Technology is a great educational tool," Kay says. "Children have a hard time understanding the concept of time and relating to events that took place a long time ago. By using technology and interactive programs, we can help them get across that time barrier."

Kay realizes there is still a lot of work to be completed before the museum is ready to open, but she is looking forward to all of the challenges ahead. "I'm very excited about being the executive director of a museum that I get to help put together from the very beginning. It's not often you get that kind of opportunity."

Kay was chosen for the executive director position because of her extensive background in historical archaeology, educational program design and development, exhibition design, program research and development, volunteer coordination and project management. She earned both her master of arts in anthropology (with a specialty in archaeology) and her PhD in education (with a specialty in instructional technology) from the University of Virginia. She spent the last five years as an assistant professor at George Mason University's graduate school.

Kay also has been an archaeologist for over 30 years. Her archaeology experience includes work on projects with the Manassas Museum, the Charleston Museum, and Fairfax County. She has also performed a wide variety of workshops, been a speaker and panelist for many scholarly events, written a long list of published articles and research

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PERFECT FIT, continued from page 1.

studies, and received numerous honors and awards.

Kay is looking forward to drawing upon all of her experiences in her new position. "I have loved all the different areas I've worked in," she says. "I love teaching, and I love the archaeology and interpretation of historic sites. But each time that I've moved from one area of interest to another, I've been frustrated because I didn't want to leave the other area behind. So I've been searching for a way to combine all of my interests in education, archaeology, technology, museum studies and historic architecture. When this position opened up, it just seemed like the perfect fit."

David Norden, President of the Mosby Museum Foundation, agrees. "Kay has a tremendous educational background, plus a tremendous work background. And she seems just as excited about being with us and being a part of this project, as we are about having her. Now that we're getting closer to designing the layout of the museum, which includes creating the exhibits and figuring out the best way to tell the stories that the museum will tell, we're approaching the final stage of the restoration. Having Kay here, with all of her experiences and everything she has done so far, is going to be a really big asset to the Foundation as we prepare to take that final step." ■

Volunteers Needed

Kay McCarron is in the process of recruiting volunteers for the new Mosby Museum. If you're a history buff, enjoy dressing in Civil War attire, or you love digging up artifacts, the museum may be just the diversion you've been looking for. If you want to stay active and have some fun while supporting a good cause, check out the museum's volunteer openings:

- Museum docents/home tour guides
- Tour guides for the kitchen, smoke house and historic gardens
- Researchers
- Archeological assistants

If you're interested in becoming a part of the Mosby Museum volunteer corps, please call Kay McCarron at (540) 351-1600.



Construction workers were busy putting the finishing touches on the new Visitor Center at the beginning of May, when this photo was taken. The Visitor Center is scheduled to open at the end of June.

Update on the Mosby Museum

Now that most of the exterior renovations to Brentmoor are complete, the focus has turned to the interior of the home. Engineering work is currently being conducted to develop the internal systems of the building, and that phase should be complete by the end of June. At that time, the Foundation will put the work out to bid for new plumbing, electrical, heating/cooling, fire and security systems.

After all of the systems are installed, local and nationally recognized interior designer Barry Dixon will help the Foundation restore the interior of Brentmoor to its post-Civil War style. Just prior to the scheduled opening of the

museum in the fall of 2007, the Foundation will welcome everyone to the museum during a designer's open house. ■



Journey Through Hallowed Ground

By Town Councilman Birge Watkins

Take a stroll down Main Street in Old Town Warrenton and you will be taking a "Journey through Hallowed Ground," a major national initiative to protect and promote one of America's most historic corridors.

The "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" follows a 175-mile corridor from Gettysburg to Charlottesville along Routes 15 and 20. Warrenton's Main Street — Business Route 15 — is an important leg of this historic corridor.

Along Warrenton's portion of the corridor, visitors can find many significant historic features. They include the Warrenton Historic District, courthouse, John Marshall statue, the Old Jail Museum, the Warren Green Building, the restored buildings with their shops and stores, the historic churches with their majestic wood steeples, and Brentmoor (the Spilman-Mosby House).

The "Journey Through Hallowed Ground," is a new regional initiative that recognizes the corridor as one of the most important historic, cultural, scenic and natural areas in Virginia and the nation.

On January 10, 2006, the Warrenton Town Council joined many other towns and counties in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia by passing a resolution declaring the Town's support for "Journey Through Hallowed Ground." With this action, Warrenton also joins fifteen other "main street" communities in Virginia that are destinations along the "Journey." Fauquier County is also a strong and active supporter of the program.

The Town's resolution recognizes that the historic corridor is a gateway to some of the most important places in our country's history, including Native American and African American historic sites, the homes of our nation's founders, numerous Civil War battlefields and many historic town and villages.

This past April Congressman Frank Wolf and Senator George Allen announced that they would introduce legislation that would designate the "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" a National Heritage Area. Congressman Wolf noted the world wide significance of documents penned in homes along the corridor, such as the Declaration of Independence, the Monroe Doctrine and the Marshall Plan. If approved, the corridor will become the nation's 28th National Heritage Area.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has recognized the importance of the corridor and has listed the area as one of America's eleven most endangered historic places.

The "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" program offers detailed information on historic sites, has an extensive educational program, and promotes economic development

in the context of historic preservation and heritage tourism.

Warrenton and Fauquier County play an important role in the "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" and will, in turn, benefit from the regional and national exposure. Tourism is one of our best forms of economic development. The Town of Warrenton is proud to be a part of this important initiative.

So the next time you take a stroll down Main Street, enjoy the history! You will be walking along a small segment of one of America's most important historic corridors. ■

Resolution

RESOLUTION NOMINATING ROUTE 15 IN THE TOWN OF WARRENTON FOR INCLUSION IN THE STATE'S SCENIC BYWAY SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Route 15 in the Town of Warrenton is a portion of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground corridor that begins in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and ends at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello near Charlottesville, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the historic corridor is a gateway to some of the most important places in our country's history, including Native American and African American historic sites, the homes of our nation's founders, numerous Civil War battlefields and many historic towns and villages; and

WHEREAS, the portion of Route 15 in the Town of Warrenton and Fauquier County should be designated as a Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Warrenton recognizes the importance of preserving this historic byway for generations to come,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Warrenton in Virginia hereby acknowledges the intrinsic importance to Virginia of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground project and recognizes this historic corridor as a gateway to some of the most important locations in both American and Virginia history, encompassing centuries of historic sites in scenic settings. ■



Historic District Register



Exploring a Pictorial History of Warrenton

By Mike Baldauf

While researching an article about the Warrenton Historic District recently, I had the good fortune of coming across a fascinating website developed by Stephen P. Ryder, Jr. entitled "A Pictorial History of Warrenton." Mr. Ryder has painstakingly compiled over 250 vintage photos of Warrenton dating from the Civil War to the 1960s into ten categories which range from "buildings and landmarks" to "townspeople" to "restaurants and motels."



Brentmoor, the one-time home of Col. John S. Mosby, Circa 1930.

Mr. Ryder has invited website visitors to add comments to identify where old buildings may have been located, or to reminisce about photos such as the old Gold Cup location at Broadview. The old photos become even more interesting with the background information offered by visitors to the site.

For long-time residents, browsing photos of bygone landmarks such as the Huntsman Restaurant will bring back



Britton Hall, Circa 1935

memories of what Warrenton was like in the not-too-distant past. New residents will recognize buildings on Main Street and Culpeper Street which appear to have changed little in the last ninety years. Everyone who views the site, no matter how long they have lived here, will come away with a better appreciation of the heritage of the Town of Warrenton and how it has evolved into what it is today.



An image from the fire of 1909, which destroyed much of the Town. This photo was shot looking north from Main Street.

When you have some time at your computer, please look up "A Pictorial History of Warrenton," at

<http://spryder.casebook.org/warrenton/>

and take a walk through the history of our town.

Thanks to Stephen Ryder, Jr. for doing a wonderful job compiling these old photos from so many different sources and making them available to us. ■



Photos from a 1950s advertisement for the Frost Diner. One person who left a comment on Ryder's website about this series of photos recalled that in the 1960s, every date ended at the Frost Diner. Hamburgers and shared fries were part of the routine and the romance.

The Economics of Volunteers in Old Town's Revitalization

It's spring again... which means more of the Partnership for Warrenton Foundation's (PFWF) Promotion Committee events and activities in downtown are happening. The annual Fathers' Day Car Show and July 4 Kids Parade are just around the corner.

Gum Drop Square and Christmas in Old Town are highlights of winter activities. Besides providing community enjoyment and pride, additional retailing opportunities, these events contribute significantly to the Town's tourism development initiative. And the PFWF relies on volunteers to ensure the success of these wonderful community events.

Since the program began tracking volunteer investment in 1998, the PFWF has logged 25,524 volunteer hours — the equivalent of \$456,131. That's a good size company payroll. Of the 20 Virginia Main Street Communities only the City of Lynchburg (population 65,269), Bedford (population of 6,299) and Warrenton have reached the 25,000-plus hours



plateau. Volunteer time spent planning, organizing, staffing, hauling barricades and equipment, updating holiday decorations, etc. account for a fair share of the hours. Additional hours are donated by volunteers working on the design, organization, and economic development committees of the Main Street program.

PFWF volunteers range from seven to eighty years old. They are professionals, school employees and students, retirees, merchants, homemakers, local business owners, civic organizations, and others. What they have in common is a strong affection for their hometown, willingness to get involved, and an apparent desire to retain Old Town's unique character.

The events and activities are underwritten by sponsors, donations, and the upcoming "An Evening Under the Stars" fundraiser, which is another massive task undertaken by volunteers.

The Partnership appreciates your gifts of time, talent and treasure. We encourage your ideas, and welcome an hour or

more to help us continue our projects on behalf of the community. It would be our pleasure to add you to our list of treasured volunteers. Contact the Partnership office at (540) 349-8606. ■



Earth Day "Clean Sweep"



In conjunction with Earth Day, April's "Clean Sweep" project had its very first "Old Town" team! Molly's Irish Pub, the PFWF, and friends got together to remove trash from the municipal parking lots in downtown. While we didn't find any treasures, the lots looked much better for the team's efforts. ■



Town Office Hours and Telephone Numbers

Town Office Hours are 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

The area code is 540 unless otherwise noted.

Finance Department	347-1102
Inspections	347-2405
Maintenance Shop	347-1858
Police Department	
Office of the Chief	347-1105
Police Station	347-1107
Non-emergency	347-1100
Emergency	911
Planning and Zoning	347-2405
Recycling	347-1858
Sewage Plant	347-1104
Town Hall	347-1101
Town Manager	347-4505
Utilities	347-6574
Water Bills	347-2678
Water Plant	347-1103
TTD/TTY	1-800-828-1120

**After Hours Water and Sewer Emergency
347-1100**

Holiday Refuse Schedule

Independence Day — July 4, 2006

Monday, 7/3/06 — Monday and Tuesday's refuse collection.

Tuesday, 7/4/06 — Holiday: no refuse collection.

Wednesday, 7/5/06 — Recycling collections (blue bags, cardboard & newspaper).

Thursday, 7/6/06 — Regular refuse collection.

Friday, 7/7/06 — Regular refuse collection.

NOTICE: The Town Code states that trash cans should not be any larger than 32 gallons, and cans or bags should not weigh any more than 75 pounds. Town crews have noticed a lot of people using larger cans (these new cans on wheels). If you already have these cans and wish to use them you must place your trash in bags in these cans, so our men can pull the bags out. They are not able to lift the larger cans and dump them. ■

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The Town Crier

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citizens of the major events which affect our government
and community.

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